2006. Meanwhile, Railways are executing following projects for providing linkage to non-Major Ports in Gujarat:

Name of the Port	Status
Dahej Port (Bharuch-Samni-Dahej-Gauge Conversion)	The project has been sactioned for execution by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) *viz.* Bharuch-Dahej Railway Company Limited which will implement the project. The shareholder's agreement has been signed on 12.1.2007. The anticipated cost of the project is Rs. 165.77 crores.
Hazira Port (Surat-Hazira-New Line)	An SPV for implementation of this project is to be created upon finalization of principles for revenue allocation and Concession Agreement for this project.
Dholera Port	Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) is undertaking the Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey (PETS) for rail connectivity to this Port.
Bedi and New Bedi Port Connectivity	Railway Board is appraising the Study Report prepared by RITES for this project.

Rail crossings in Gujarat

1892. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that three rail crossings in Gujarat on NH-6, Surat-Dhulia are bottlenecks for smooth traffic; and

(b) if so, the details of planning of construction of Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) on these three rail crossings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There are three rail crossings on Surat-Gujarat/Maharashtra border section of NH-6 in Gujarat. This section of NH-6 is presently included in National Highway Development Project (NHDP), Phase-IIIB only for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) by NHAI. Consultancy work

for preparation of DPR is in progress. Construction of Rail Over Bridges (ROBs) in replacement of these rail crossings have been suggested by the Consultants in the Inception Report. It is premature to indicate plan/ time frame for construction of ROBs at this stage.

Four laning of roads in Assam

1893. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the four-lane road construction work from Baihata Charalai to Tezpur would start in Assam;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct a road bridge over Brahmaputra river and if so, by when the construction work would start;

(c) the present position of utilizing Brahmaputra river as waterways linking with Bay of Bengal for facilitating inland water transport facilities to promote trade and commerce towards North-Eastern Region;

(d) whether it is a fact that Government are going to wind up the establishment of Central Inland Waterways Corporation in North-Eastern Region; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Four laning of Baihata Charalai to Tezpur Section of NH-52 covering a length of 130 km has been identified under NHDP Phase III-B. The feasibility study and preparation of Detailed Project Report is in progress.

(b) The construction of new Bridge over Brahmaputra river has been taken up on East West Corridor under NHDP Phase-II. The contractor has already been mobilized at the site.

(c) Dhubri to Sadiya stretch of River Brahmaputra has been declared as National Waterway and is being developed by Inland Waterways Authority of India. North East Region is connected to Bay of Bengal through this National Waterway and River in Bangladesh. During the year 2005-06, cargo movement on this National Waterway has been 0.0322 billion ton km.